**6 October 2014**

**Africa RISING monthly meeting minutes**

**Venue-**Lalibela meeting room

**Time-** 2:00PM-4:00 PM

**Participants;** Peter Thorne(ILRI) , Aster G.Kirstos (ICRAF), Kindu Mekonnen (ILRI), Valentine Gandhi(IWMI), Kalpana Sharma (CIP), Melkamu Bezabih(ILRI), Elias Damtew(ILRI), Annet Mulema(ILRI), Wellington Jogo (CIP), Biyensa Gurmessa (CIAT), Dirk Hoekstra (LIVES), Britta Kowalski (CIP), Aberra Adie (ILRI), Seid Kemal (ICARDA), Simret Yasabu (ILRI), Wubalem Dejene(ILRI) , Girma Tesfahun (ICARDA), Dereje Tirfessa(CIMMYT) ,Zelalem Lema(ILRI) ,Kassahun Mengistu (IFPRI) , Ewen Le Borgne (ILRI),Tilahun Amede(ICRISAT)

**Agendas**

1. Progress update
2. Deliverables monitoring for the AR research protocols
3. Value chain validation meeting/workshop
4. Status of water centered research protocols
5. Next plan
6. AOB

**Progress update**

**CIAT**

* A two week value chain report validation workshop was conducted at the ILRI campus in Addis Ababa. The workshop is jointly organized by CIAT and the Africa RISING project in Ethiopia. It aims to validate and finalize the value chain studies that were conducted earlier this year. The workshop was in two rounds where by two regions (Tigray and Amhara) completed in the first week and the other two (SNNPR and Oromia) in the second week.

**ICRAF**

* No new activities accept a follow. There is a high demand from other farmers to be included in ICRAFT experiments on avocado trees.
* Treelucern were provided to farmer in Jawe and there will be data tacking data 6 months.
* There is a need to provide management training in Tigray for those who are planning Apple trees .
* Martha Cronin has finished her field work.
* And discussion is underway with Mekelle University to reengage students on Social economic survey

**ICRIAST**

* Most of the experiments are doing well and some initial findings will be shared on the next meeting

**CIP**

* The data compilation work is now completed. All the previous trials are good .
* The mid-season evaluation are underway in some sites and going ok. Double cropping in Lemo and Miychew will be done

**ICARDA**

* Malt barley is booting. On faba bean there is a problem with the new born disease
* There is work underway on Potato wheat and barley seed multiplication
* In Goshe bado there is a proof that the newly introduced – faba bean is better that the local one.
* There is a plan to prepare a data sheet to collect some data.
* In Sinana started weeding, the malt barley has been damaged but is now recovering. The food barley is doing well. ICARDA is hiring a field assistant

**Challenges** included in site selection/ water logging and Double cropping .Field pea is fine and faba bean is damaged

**CIMMYT**

Midterm evaluation for potato is being carried out .Most of the PVS are doing very well

Some of the farmers are not collaborating so we need to consider that.

Faba bean is recovering in most cases

**IWMI**

* There was a big meeting (CG partners) to pull together different activities
* Two consultants’ one on water one on soil
* There is a plan to work on a learning document – Peter , Stefen, Valentine will be in the team

**CIAT**

* Yield gap activity
* data Collected for the trial
* field visit to map as baseline data on Soil erosion and land management

**ILRI**

* IP facilitation training – 53 participants – technical team members from sites- champions have been identifies – on facilitation , communication – Simret ,Elias, Anne and Zelalem will be supporting them
* Fertlizer concept note – request by USAID- a small team will work on the full proposal
* Apollo was in some of our fields to do a digital stories
* The fattening project is completed and the farmers have sold their sheep – the main finding will be shared during the next meeting
* Protocols on faba bean , treelucer being developed- 20 farmers will be participating – all sites will be included
* A new car has been brought for Africa RISING Addis office and a new driver has been recruited

**IFPRI**

* A training on Project mapping and monitoring tool (PMMT) is planned on October 20 for AR CG partners

**Deliverables monitoring for the AR research protocols**

* Peter did a presentation on protocol monitoring
* He asked the partners to fill out the sheet and respond